



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

17 AUGUST 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Ex-Leader of Hells Angeles Chapter Sentenced for Role in New York Drug Ring

(U) Monterey – A former leader of a California chapter of the Hells Angels Motorcycle Club has been sentenced to 10 years in federal prison for his role in a methamphetamine trafficking operation in western New York. The US Attorney's Office says 64-year-old Richard Mar of Monterey, California, was sentenced on 16 August after pleading guilty in March to drug conspiracy charges. Prosecutors say Mar was the president of the Hells Angels chapter in his hometown and supplied large quantities of meth to the upstate New York drug ring from 2002 into mid-2010.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [SF Gate](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – TSA Seizes Record Number of Firearms at Airport Checkpoints

(U) Washington – Transportation security officials say they seized a record-breaking number of firearms last week in carry-on bags at airports around the country. The Transportation Security Administration said that of the 78 firearms they found, 68 of them were loaded. The agency said the previous record of firearms seized was 74 and that was set in May.

SOURCE: 16 August 2016, [The Daily Herald](#)

(U) District of Columbia – US Prosecutors Dealt Setback in Medical Marijuana Cases

(U) Washington – The US Department of Justice cannot spend money to prosecute federal marijuana cases if the defendants comply with state guidelines that permit the drug's sale for medical purposes, the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals ruled yesterday. Twenty-five US states currently allow for medical marijuana. While the sale of the drug is still illegal under federal law, Congress in 2014 passed a budget rule which prohibits the DOJ from using federal funds to interfere in the implementation of state marijuana regulations. Due to this rule, defendants in 10 cases in California and Washington argued that their federal charges should be dismissed. The 9th Circuit in San Francisco, which covers nine Western states, ruled on Tuesday that the DOJ could not spend money as long as those defendants "strictly complied" with all state regulations.

SOURCE: 16 August 2016, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Morocco – Authorities Arrest Four Men with Alleged Ties to ISIL

(U) Casablanca – Moroccan authorities on 17 August arrested four men allegedly linked to ISIL who were planning attacks in the kingdom's economic capital Casablanca, the interior ministry said. Initial findings in the investigation pointed to the men having "pledged allegiance" to ISIL and preparing to attack "vital sites in Casablanca", it said.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [News 24](#)

(U) Russia– Security Forces Kill Four Suspected Terrorist Fighters in Counterterrorism Raid

(U) Saint Petersburg – Russian security forces killed four suspected terrorist fighters as they stormed an apartment in Saint Petersburg during a counter-terrorism raid today. Heavily armed officers were met with gunfire as they tried to enter the apartment on Leninskii Prospekt in the city's suburbs, according to a statement from Russia's Investigative Committee. The Committee, Russia's equivalent of the FBI, said the raid was carried out in an effort to arrest suspected members of terrorist groups from the North Caucasus, a region home to a long-running extremist insurgency.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [ABC News](#)

(U) Turkey– Turkey to Release 38,000 Prisoners 'To Make Room For Arrested Coup Plotters'

(U) Ankara – Turkey has issued a decree for the conditional release of 38,000 prisoners in an apparent move to make space for thousands of people arrested as part of an investigation into last month's failed coup. The decree, announced by the country's justice minister, allows the release of inmates who have two years or less to serve of their sentences. It also makes convicts who have served half their prison term eligible for parole. However, those convicted of murder, domestic violence, sexual abuse or terrorism and other crimes against the state will be excluded.

SOURCE: 17 August 2016, [Independent](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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